

## About Our Speakers and Panelist



**Neil Weinstein, P.E., R.L.A., A.I.C.P.** is the Executive Director and one of the founders of the Low Impact Development (LID) Center in Beltsville, Maryland. Neil is a registered engineer and landscape architect and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and the ASCE Urban Water Resources Research Council. He has a M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University and a M.L.A. from the University of Georgia. For the last 10 years Neil has primarily been focused on the planning, research, and design of innovative stormwater management practices, including LID. Prior to that he worked as a development engineer and planner on municipal, institutional, and private sector projects.

**Larry S. Coffman** is the Associate Director of Prince George's County, Maryland's Department of Environmental Resources. Mr. Coffman has 25 years experience with Prince George's County, working in all aspects of stormwater management including: comprehensive watershed planning; BMP monitoring, BMP research and development; regulation of new development; stormwater infrastructure maintenance; floodplain regulation and construction of flood control and environmental restoration projects.

Mr. Coffman is the pioneer of bioretention technology. He has been involved in the planning, design and construction of hundreds of facilities throughout Maryland, Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay region. In 1994 he won the Chesapeake Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) excellence award for his work on the *Bioretention Design Manual*. He is widely recognized as a national expert on the technology and is sometimes referred to as the "Father of Bioretention".

Building on the success of the bioretention technology, Mr. Coffman developed the LID technology - a new approach to urban stormwater management. The LID technology won EPA's 1998 First Place National Award for Excellence for municipal stormwater management programs. EPA also awarded Prince George's County a grant to develop a national LID guidance manual. Mr. Coffman has authored numerous papers and conducts seminars for universities and professional organization on LID technology and watershed protection strategies. Mr. Coffman's experience, vision and guidance has resulted in Prince George's County being recognized as one of the nation's most progressive and innovative stormwater/environmental programs.

**John R. Thomas, ASLA, AICP**, is the Senior Associate/Project Manager at Edward Pinckney/Associates, Ltd. Mr. Thomas is a seasoned professional with 29 years of experience in major project design and construction. Using a hands-on approach, he has designed and developed projects as large as 5000 acres in seven states, working in more than 50 cities and municipalities throughout the south. He has been heavily involved in residential, recreational, and planned unit developments including more than 7,000 units of multi-family housing, parks, waterfront developments, military projects, golf course and golf facility design, and regional college campuses for the University of South Carolina in Allendale and Beaufort.

Mr. Thomas has extensive experience working with Federal Wetlands Legislation, HUD, EPA, DNR, DHEC, Army Corps of Engineers and various other governmental regulatory agencies. Mr. Thomas has founded and served as president of his own architectural, engineering, and planning firm. Mr. Thomas graduated from the University of Georgia in Environmental Design, after serving four years in the United States Marine Corp. He is a member of numerous professional and civic affiliations including the Southern Beaufort County Review Board and the American Planning Association.

**Kenneth B. Simmons, Jr.** is the owner and Project Manager/Senior Landscape Architect at Kenneth B. Simmons Associates. He has a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from Clemson University and an M.S. in

Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia. In 1995, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) elected Ken to the Council of Fellows. Mr. Simmons has been self-employed for over 30 years.

Recent multi-million dollar planning and landscape architecture design projects include the downtown area of Georgetown, streetscapes in Hartsville, as well as projects in downtown Elloree, Sumter, Lexington, and Charleston. In 1994, Mr. Simmons completed the award winning design of the Savannah Highway Bike and Greenway. This project combined stormwater detention and pedestrian/bike travel into an environmentally sensitive wildlife observation corridor. Mr. Simmons is currently working on the recreation needs study for the City of Charleston. He is also Project Manager for the Three Rivers Greenway in Columbia.

**Jeff Randolph** formed his own company, The Randolph Group, in 1997 after 15 years of experience in real estate acquisition, development, marketing, and finance. The Randolph Group creates communities that challenge accepted standards with regard to locations, mixture of housing types and values, landplanning and development techniques. The Randolph Group has been awarded the Best in American Living award by the National Association of Home Builders and Professional Builders Magazine. Builder/Architect Magazine recently named The Randolph Group's Redfearn community *Best New Community of the Year* in 2003.

Jeff Randolph holds a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from Clemson University. As an active member of the business community, he has been involved with housing initiatives with the City of Greenville, Greenville County, and the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce. He was awarded Volunteer of the Year by the Greenville United Way for his involvement in the redevelopment of the Viola community.

**Laura Bailey** is the Natural Resources Planner for the Town of Bluffton. She is an ISA certified arborist with degrees in Biology and Civil Engineering Technology. Over the past 3 years, she has worked on facilitating an environmental assessment of the May River; revising of Bluffton's tree ordinance to include the preservation of native vegetation and an indigenous landscaping guide; constructing the Town's multi-purpose trail system; initiating the Bluffton's Safe Routes to School Program and community environmental education and outreach through workshops and literature.

**Jim London** is Professor of City and Regional Planning and a Fellow of the Strom Thurmond Institute at Clemson University. He received a Ph.D. in Applied Economics in 1979 from Clemson University and has taught at both the College of Charleston and Clemson. He has also been a visiting professor in Australia.

Dr. London specializes in natural resource and economic development policy and planning. At the local level, he has worked on and served in an advisory capacity for a number of comprehensive and land use planning efforts. At the state level, he has been involved in policy initiatives relating to shoreline erosion management, water resource policy, solid waste management, and infrastructure policy. He also has served as a consultant to international entities as well as public and private entities in the U.S. and currently serves on the Scientific Advisory Board to the Nature Conservancy. In addition to his academic work, he serves on Pickens County Council.

**Randolph Stewart** has been a Residential Designer for over 24 years. He has designed homes and aided in design and restoration of historic homes all over the southeast including numerous residences in Beaufort County. Mr. Stewart is co-author of *The Bluffton Historic Preservation Manual for the Town of Bluffton*, which established the guidelines for all future construction in the Bluffton Historic Preservation and Conservation Overlay Districts. He is the Design Facilitator for Celadon, an Andres Duany Urban Designed TND (Traditional Neighborhood Design), in Beaufort. Recent designs for the development include commercial, civic and residential buildings. He is currently an Urban Designer for 2 projects consisting of 80 units in the Historic District of Bluffton where he is establishing a sustainable model for historic infill. Mr. Stewart's work has received various awards and has been featured in a number of publications. He is also a member of the Congress for the New Urbanism.